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State Dept. review  
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
16 June 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Arab-Israeli Situation Report  
(As of 8:30 AM EDT)

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Czech Premier Lenart is coming to the meeting, which may mean other East European heads of government will join in. The Israeli delegation says that Dayan is not coming. One of U Thant's assistants has said that since the 62 affirmative votes will have been received this morning, the Secretary General will have to call the meeting for Saturday. This would probably be only a short organizational meeting, however, with the major work starting Monday.

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25X1 6. Cairo's Al-Ahram this morning implied that the US had deceived the USSR during the crisis. Editor Haykal--Nasir's number one journalist-adviser--ran through most of the old charges about US aid to the Israelis. Then he wrote that US "lies and hypocrisy" toward the USSR reached a peak when President Johnson told Kosygin that two US reconnaissance planes seen over the Sinai were only reacting to the firing on the USS Liberty. According to Haykal, the Liberty's mission was to help the Sixth Fleet jam Egyptian radar.

7. Life in the old city of Jerusalem is slowly returning to normal, according to the US Consulate General there, and residents are expressing surprise and appreciation at the good treatment accorded them thus far

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by the Israelis. Israeli authorities do not appear to be trying to move all Palestinians to the East bank, and they have hinted that current restrictions on travel from the East to the West bank may be relaxed later on.

8. Tunisia has announced that President Bourguiba will not attend the Arab summit meeting to be held in Khartoum. The decision not to attend was stated to be the President's recent heart attack.

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

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(As of 4:30 p.m. EDT)

1. The first meeting of the General Assembly will convene on 17 June at 9:30 a.m. EDT and will likely be short and devoted to formalities and procedural questions, such as adoption of an agenda and appointment of a credentials committee. This will give member countries time to get their special delegations to New York. Many will not be arriving until Sunday, but in time for the general debate on Monday at 10:30 a.m.

2. So far, however, only a very few countries have named special delegations. These are led by George Brown (UK), Couve de Murville (France), Prime Minister Krag (Denmark), Premier Cyrankiewicz and Foreign Minister Rapacki (Poland), Foreign Minister Bourguiba (Tunisia), King Hassan (Morocco), Abba Eban and former Foreign Minister Golda Meir (Israel), Foreign Minister Sharifuddin Pirzada (Pakistan), and Premier Jenoe Fock (Hungary). There are unofficial reports that Castro will attend the session.

3. The Soviet delegation is heavily weighted with Foreign Ministry officials whose backgrounds and responsibilities are in Western European, American and United Nations' affairs. Only two medium-level Middle East experts are on the list. The plane carrying Kosygin and the other top officials is now expected to arrive at Kennedy International Airport around 7 a.m. tomorrow morning.

4. Among the senior Foreign Ministry officials are Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Soldatov, former Ambassador to Great Britain, who is reportedly the Director of the Foreign Policy Planning Bureau of the Foreign Ministry; Lev Mendelevich, Head of the Latin American Countries Division, and Oleg Khlestov, Head of the Treaty and Legal Division, who were both members of the Soviet delegation to the UNGA in May; and Valentin Falin, Head of the Second European Division (UK and British Commonwealth countries). Soldatov has traveled extensively in the United States. He was present at the Camp David talks between Khrushchev and President Eisenhower in 1959, and at the 1960 Paris summit meeting. Falin was a member of Khrushchev's delegation at the Vienna meeting with President Kennedy in 1961.

5. The entourage is approximately the same size as that which accompanied Khrushchev to the UN in 1960 and includes support personnel [redacted]

[redacted] Kosygin's daughter, Lyudmila Gvishiani, and his physician, Dr. Anatoly Prokhorov, are accompanying the Premier.

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6. The Ukrainian and Belorussian delegations, which are traveling with Kosygin, are headed by their respective Premiers, Vladimir Shcherbitsky -- a Candidate Member of the CPSU Politburo -- and Tikhon Kiselev.

7. De Gaulle and Kosygin, accompanied by their foreign ministers, talked for two and a half hours in Paris this afternoon. A late Reuters report says that although De Gaulle had no "immediate plans to visit the US, the possibility of such a visit was not ruled out for "a later time." De Gaulle might feel it is too early to attempt a four-power concert and that his bilateral meeting with Kosygin does more at the moment to emphasize France's independent position. He might also not wish to appear superfluous if Kosygin is coming to the US intending to talk seriously with President Johnson. Although official French statements stress that the parties directly conflicting in the Middle East will not be able by themselves to settle their difficulties and that the UN "may not be well placed to assist,"

Paris has appeared to put off until some time after the "near future" the right moment for a four-power initiative. Despite its backing of the Soviet call for a special GA session, France has stated that -- "per the UN charter" -- the Security Council will have to consider any decisions requiring action.

8. Reporting from Tel Aviv, meanwhile, on the Israeli reaction to French "neutrality," Agence France Presse (AFP) claims that French policy is being seen no longer as neutral but to be almost pro-Arab. AFP goes on to say that Israelis are looking more than ever toward Washington to "plead the cause of Israel" and that mediation by France appears in Israel to be no longer desirable.

9. The pro-Dayan Israeli newspaper Haaretz, yesterday gave caustic treatment to the forth-coming UN General Assembly meeting. Since, in its words, the UN not only failed to prevent the war but in the person of the Secretary-General actually played a contributory part, the paper denied the UN the right to judge or condemn Israel as an aggressor. UN mediation is to be avoided, it said, since that can only encourage the Arab states to refuse to recognize "the new reality."

10. Iraq's representative at the UN notified U Thant on 15 June that observance by Iraqi troops in Jordan of the ceasefire had been effected when the Arab Joint Command in Jordan declared its acceptance of the resolution. Algeria has yet to formally accept the ceasefire.

11. The Arab foreign ministers conference, scheduled for tomorrow in Kuwait, may be transferred to New York. The US Ambassador in Morocco was informed yesterday by Foreign Minister Laraki that King Hassan had sent out messages to all Arab leaders requesting that the meeting be transferred to New York. This morning, the US Ambassador in Saudi Arabia received word that the Saudi's had received a message from the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry stating that all participants in the conference should be prepared to leave at once from Kuwait to New York. The Arabs apparently feel that they will be able to accomplish more at the UN General Assembly than in Kuwait.

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13. Pledges of aid for Arab victims of the Middle East war are being made by a number of countries. The USSR today promised it was sending over two million dollars for relief, while Canada also began the shipment of food aid to Arab nations valued at a similar amount. Jordan has received particular attention in relief contributions, with the following amounts having been pledged, (in dollars): Kuwait \$14 million; Saudi Arabia \$19 million; Algeria \$4.2 million; Libya, \$1.4 million; Egypt \$1 million; Lebanon \$160,000; and Iran \$280,000.

14. The old guard of Israel's Mapai party, led by party secretary and former foreign minister, Golda Meir, is urging the immediate merger of Mapai with the left-wing socialist Achdut Haavoda. This move is being made to counter threats to Mapai leadership of the government brought on by the apparent intention of the Rafi, the party of Dayan and Ben-Gurion, to re-integrate itself into the Mapai. If the Mapai-Achdut Haavoda merger is achieved, according to the US embassy there, this could at least balance the influence of Rafi faction within Mapai, and at most could override it.

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Annex to  
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STATUS OF ARAB AND ISRAELI FORCES

1. Even without help from Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and the Sudan, the Arab armies probably number about 310,000 men in effective units. Israel probably has less than 200,000 men under arms. The Arabs have a little over 200 jet fighters, about the same number as the Israelis. The numerical superiority of the Arabs has been greatly reduced, however, there is considerable disorganization and confusion in their armies, as well as probably serious morale problems.

UAR

2. Egypt probably had about 90,000 men in Sinai when the war began, and only a few of its units there were able to escape relatively unscathed. The great majority of the Egyptians are now returning disarmed, disorganized, and with neither officers nor NCOs. These troops may well prove more of a liability than an asset to Cairo. Egypt has been moving some troops from Yemen to the UAR, and has some units which were not engaged in fighting, but most of Cairo's best brigades have been destroyed.

3. The Egyptian Air Force, although drastically reduced by combat losses, still has a significant inventory -- probably more than 120 jet fighters

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[redacted] Egypt lost about 50 of its 72 light and medium bombers, but its remaining bomber force is still the largest of any of the combatants.

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JORDAN

4. [redacted]

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[redacted] The army -- totaling about 25,000 men -- has taken up defensive positions on the East Bank, and probably has very limited capabilities. The Jordanian air force was almost completely destroyed.

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SYRIA

5. Syria suffered extensive losses during the two day Israeli offensive, and lost almost all its air force in the early days of the Arab-Israeli war. Although Syria's remaining 45,000 troops should be able to offer some resistance to an Israeli attack, they appear to be in no position to attack Israel.

IRAQ

6. About 15,000 Iraqis are in Jordan. [redacted]

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[redacted] Iraqi ground forces suffered only slight losses during the war and probably most of the air force remains operational. Although Iraqi supply lines would be highly vulnerable in any renewal of hostilities, and the possibility of fighting in Kurdistan would prevent Baghdad from using its whole army, Iraq is probably in the best military posture of the Arab nations.

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SAUDI ARABIA

7. Saudi Arabian forces were not engaged in the recent conflict. [redacted]

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[redacted] The withdrawal of some Egyptian forces from Yemen could allow the Saudis to move more of their 25,000 troops to oppose Israel, but there are no indications of significant Saudi Arabian activity.

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LEBANON

8. The Lebanese have managed to stay out of the war so far, and their small 13,000 man army -- dug in along the border -- appears to be no threat to the Israelis.

ISRAEL

9. Combat losses and demobilization have reduced Israeli combat capabilities, but Israel remains far stronger relative to the Arabs than on 4 June. About a quarter of the Israeli reservists may have been released, but could be recalled quickly, and although the Israeli air force lost about 15 percent of its fighters during the war, Arab aircraft losses may well have been over 60 percent. Longer supply lines -- especially in Sinai -- might make Israeli logistic problems somewhat greater, but in other areas -- for example on the Syrian frontier -- Israeli gains have greatly improved their tactical situation. Further, Israeli morale appears to be at a peak, while Arab morale may be at an all time low.

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